



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|

09/490,783

01/24/2000

Richard C. Johnson

ORCL5628

7640

22430

7590

02/08/2005

EXAMINER

GILLIGAN, CHRISTOPHER L

YOUNG LAW FIRM  
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION  
4370 ALPINE ROAD SUITE 106  
PORTOLA VALLEY, CA 94028

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3626

DATE MAILED: 02/08/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/490,783

Applicant(s)

JOHNSON, RICHARD C.

Examiner

Luke Gilligan

Art Unit

3626

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 November 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,7-10 and 13-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,7-10 and 13-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

***Response to Amendment***

1. In the amendment filed 11/24/04, the following has occurred: claims 18-27 have been canceled and claims 1, 7, and 13 have been amended. Now, claims 1-4, 7-10, and 13-16 are presented for examination.
2. The previous rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) and 35 U.S.C. 103(a) have been withdrawn by the Examiner based on changes made by Applicant to the claims.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-4, 7-10, and 13-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Tsuei et al, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0260653.
5. As per claim 7, Tsuei teaches a method for a shipper to process a package identified by a package code devoid of delivery address information, the package containing goods purchased by a customer from a vendor for shipment to an address unknown to the vendor, the shipper carrying out the steps of: receiving a request to pick up a package from the vendor, the package having a machine-readable package code affixed thereto but no delivery address (see paragraph 0208); receiving a shipping identifier and a delivery address associated with the shipping identifier from a bank at which the customer having purchased the goods contained in the package maintains an account, the delivery address being associated with the customer's

Art Unit: 3626

account at the bank (see paragraph 0204); picking up the package from the vendor, reading the package code affixed to the package, matching the package code with the received shipping identifier, and delivery the package from the vendor directly to the delivery address associated with the shipping identifier (see paragraph 0208).

6. As per claim 8, Tsuei teaches the method of claim 7 as described above, further comprising the steps of printing a shipping label on which the delivery address is visible and affixing the shipping label on the package (see paragraph 0208).

7. As per claim 9, Tsuei teaches the method of claim 7 as described above, wherein the package code includes at least one of a code number and machine-readable indicia expressing the code number (see paragraph 0208).

8. As per claim 10, Tsuei teaches the method of claim 7 as described above, wherein the receiving step is performed over a computer network (see paragraph 0200).

9. Claims 1-4 and 13-16 contain substantially similar limitations to those recited in claims 7-10 from the perspective of the vendor and the bank and, as such, are rejected for similar reasons as given above. In addition, Tsuei further teaches receiving an electronic draft from the customer for the goods and authenticating the customer and guaranteeing payment if the customer is authenticated and bank-imposed restrictions are met (see paragraph 0066).

### ***Response to Arguments***

10. In the remarks filed 11/24/04, Applicants argue in substance that Stolfo does not teach certain features of the claimed invention. In response to Applicants' argument, the Examiner respectfully submits that the Stolfo reference has been withdrawn in view of the changes made to the claims. Therefore, these arguments are now moot in view of the new grounds of rejection in view of Tsuei.

***Conclusion***

11. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

12. A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Luke Gilligan whose telephone number is (703) 308-6104. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8am-5:30pm.

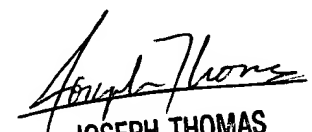
14. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Thomas can be reached on (703) 305-9588. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 3626

15. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



CLG  
2/7/05



JOSEPH THOMAS  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600